

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAGU 00825 180855Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 OES-07 /030 W
-----090284 182126Z /75

R 172046Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5775
FASXUSDA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

UNCLAS MANAGUA 0825

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: EPEP, NU
SUBJECT: DECREASE IN FUNDING FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST COFFEE RUST

REF: MANAGUA 290 (NOTAL) AND PREVIOUS

1. SOURCES AT THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE HAVE INFORMED THE EMBASSY THAT THE GON IS GOING TO REDUCE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR ITS ANTI-ROYA CAMPAIGN FROM \$10 MILLION TO \$4.4 MILLION. THE OTHER CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES AS WELL AS PANAMA AND MEXICO WERE TO BE INFORMED OF THIS DECISION ON FEBRUARY 15. THE REASON GIVEN FOR THE REDUCTION WAS LACK OF FUNDS.

2. THE DECISION WAS APPARENTLY INFLUENCED BY THE FACT THAT THE CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES AND PANAMA HAVE NOT COME FORWARD WITH PROMISED FUNDS TO HAVE BEEN BORROWED BY EACH COUNTRY FROM THE CENTRAL AMERICAN BANK FOR ECONOMIC INTEGRATION FOR THE NICARAGUAN ANTI-RUST PROGRAM. FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE COUNTRIES WERE TO HAVE BEEN AS FOLLOWS (IN MILLION OF DOLLARS): MEXICO, 2.2; GUATEMALA, 2.2; EL SALVADOR, 2.2; COSTA RICA, 2.2; HONDURAS, 1.5; AND PANAMA,
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.05. (TOTAL \$10.35 MILLION.) DURING 1977 NICARAGUA SPENT APPROXIMATELY \$9.5 MILLION FIGHTING THE RUST.

3. THE LABOR FORCE OF 2200 WHICH IS CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN THE CAMPAIGN WILL REPORTEDLY BE REDUCED TO 1065 WORKERS.

4. THE GON HOPES TO CONTAIN THE RUST WITHIN THE AREA WHICH HAS

BEEN QUARANTINED SINCE NOVEMBER 1976. HOWEVER, THERE ARE SERIOUS DOUBTS THAT THIS CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED ON SUCH A DRASTICALLY REDUCED BUDGET. EXPERTS OPINE THAT WITHIN ONE YEAR THE RUST WILL HAVE SPREAD THROUGHOUT NICARAGUA. IF IT THEN SPREADS TO THE OTHER COUNTRIES IN CENTRAL AMERICA, GUATEMALA, EL SALVADOR, AND COSTA RICA MAY SUFFER THE MOST DUE TO THE LARGE AMOUNTS OF COFFEE EXPORTED FROM THOSE COUNTRIES.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
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